

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 13 were pending in this application.

Claims 1 - 13 were rejected.

Claim 5, 9 and 10 are cancelled.

Claims 1, 6-8 and 11 are amended.

L.35 USC 102(a) Rejections

Claim 11-13 were rejected under 35 USC 102(a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,619,661 to Collins.

Claim 11 is an independent claim that sets forth a method of assembling a jigsaw puzzle. The jigsaw puzzle has puzzle framework that defines an interior. A plurality of puzzle pieces or provided that correspond to different commonly occurring life events that may or may not occur in a person's life. The puzzle pieces are added to the jigsaw puzzle framework only if they correspond to a life event that has occurred. The result is a puzzle that provides a graphical representation of the events that have occurred to a particular person.

The Collins patent discloses a jigsaw puzzle that contains math equations. The Collins puzzle does not disclose or suggest the use of puzzle pieces that correspond to events that may, or may not occur in a person's life. As such, the Collins patent clearly fails to disclose the method step of "providing a plurality of puzzle pieces that correspond to different commonly occurring life events that may or may not occur in a person's life." To indicate the types of life events being references, the life events being claimed include, but are not limited to, birthday, wedding day and graduation. The Collins patent also fails to disclose the method step of "connecting a puzzle piece from said plurality of puzzle pieces to said puzzle framework that corresponds to a life event that has occurred." Accordingly, the Collins patent does not anticipate the matter of Claim 11 and its dependent claims.

It is therefore believed that the matter of Claim 11 is distinguishable over the Collins patent. The Examiner is therefore respectfully requested to withdraw the 35 USC 102 rejection as applied to Claim 11 and its dependent claims.

Claim 11 was rejected Under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,417,732 to Guill

The Guill patent shows a puzzle where puzzle pieces are numbered and are added to a puzzle depending upon the number rolled with dice.

The Guill patent does not disclose puzzle pieces that correspond to different commonly occurring life events, including birthday, graduation day and wedding day, that may or may not occur in a person's life. The Guill patent also does not disclose the methodology of adding such puzzle pieces to a puzzle after such a major life event has occurred.

It is therefore believed that the matter of Claim 11 is distinguishable over the Guill patent. The Examiner is therefore respectfully requested to withdraw the 35 USC 102 rejection as applied to Claim 11 and its dependent claims.

Claim 1-9 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 723,425 to Thompson.

Claim 1 sets forth a method of creating a graphical depiction of a person's life using a puzzle format. A first plurality of puzzle pieces are provided that represent different major life events, including birthday, graduation day and wedding day that may, or may not, occur in a person's life. These puzzle pieces are selectively joined together. Only the puzzle pieces that correspond to events that have actually occurred in a person's life are joined to the puzzle. This creates a puzzle assembly or a "life puzzle" that is a graphical depiction of the actual life events of that person.

The Thompson patent discloses an educational puzzle for learning the spelling of simple

words.

The Thompson patent does not disclose puzzle pieces that correspond to different commonly occurring life events, including birthday, graduation day and wedding day, that may or may not occur in a person's life. The Thompson patent also does not disclose the methodology of adding such puzzle pieces to a puzzle after such a major life event has occurred.

It is therefore believed that the matter of Claim 1 is distinguishable over the Thompson patent. The Examiner is therefore respectfully requested to withdraw the 35 USC 102 rejection as applied to Claim 1 and its dependent claims.

Claim 12 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Guill.

Claim 12 depends from Claim 11. Claim 11 has already been distinguished from the Guill patent for the reasons previously presented. Claim 12 is believed to stand in condition for allowance since it depends from, and further defines, an allowable base claim.

Claim 13 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Guill in further view of Hall.

Claim 13 depends from Claim 11. Claim 11 has already been distinguished from the Guill patent for the reasons previously presented. The Hall patent does not disclose any type of puzzle with pieces that correspond to possible life events. The hall patent therefore does not address the deficiencies of the Guill patent as applied to Claim 11. Claim 13 is therefore believed to be allowable since it depends from and further defines and allowable base claims.

II. DRAWINGS

The drawings submitted with this application were informal. Formal drawings will be filed upon receipt of the Notice of Allowance for this application.

III. SUMMARY

Having fully distinguished the pending claims over the cited art, this application is believed to stand in condition for allowance. However, if the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is requested to call the applicant's attorney at (215) 321-6772 in order that any outstanding issues may be resolved without the necessity of issuing a further Office Action.

Respectfully Submitted,



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